

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-19 are presently active in this application. Applicants respectfully note that Claim 19 was added by the amendment filed on November 30, 2006.

In this Official Action, Claims 1, 3-9 and 11-18 were provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over Claims 4-6, 9-13 and 21-32 of copending U.S. Application No. 10/387,483 in view of Duprey et al. (US 6,887,614); Claims 2 and 10 were provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over Claims 4-6, 9-13 and 21-32 of copending U.S. Application No. 10/387,483 in view of Duprey et al., and further in view of Schumm (US 4,469,764).

Applicants submit herewith a terminal disclaimer to expedite issuance of this case. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the provisional double-patenting rejection is overcome.

In view of the discussions presented above, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance, and an early action favorable to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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